

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

December 7, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chair  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

As Members of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force (GVPTF) we write to you in strong support for the highest possible level of funding for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). The record level of gun violence in our country combined with the new authorities and responsibilities enacted as part of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act necessitate additional resources for the ATF.

The law enforcement officers with the ATF play a crucial role in disrupting gun traffickers, stopping the flood of ghost guns, inspecting 134,000 firearm importers, collectors, pawnbrokers, manufacturers and dealers, known as federal firearms licensees (FFLs), and preventing felons and other prohibited purchasers from accessing firearms. The historic underfunding of the ATF has led to a situation where documents needed to aid in criminal firearm related investigations are stored in inadequate facilities that inhibit the retention and timely access of this information. Funding shortages at the agency also means laws currently on the books ranging from ghost gun sales regulations, to unlicensed gun dealers selling firearms without background checks are not adequately enforced. Additional funding is also necessary for expanded outreach, education and training to promote industry compliance, awareness of gun safety resources, and firearm safety practices like safe storage.

We know that gun violence disproportionally results from stolen, trafficked, or other firearms acquired without a background check. That is why it is critically important that the ATF is fully funded and staffed to enforce our federal gun laws and help keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous individuals.

We urge you to support funding for the ATF and its critical mission at the highest possible level in the FY23 omnibus spending bill.

Sincerely,



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



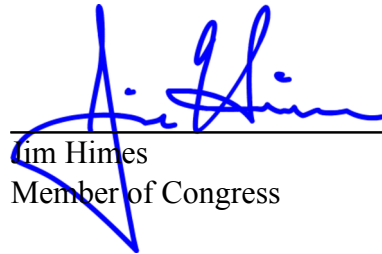
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



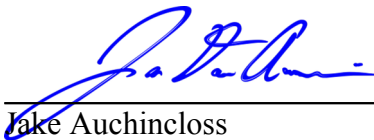
Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
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James P. McGovern  
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress




Grace F. Napolitano  
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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



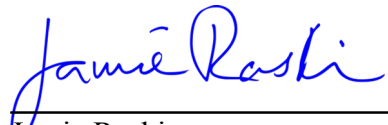
Robin L. Kelly  
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Marc A. Veasey  
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Anthony G. Brown  
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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
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Katie Porter  
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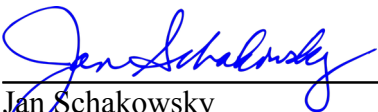
Dina Titus  
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
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Sara Jacobs  
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Jan Schakowsky  
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
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André Carson  
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle  
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Alan Lowenthal  
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Tony Cárdenas  
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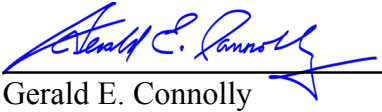
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



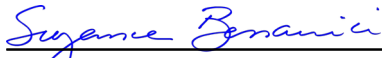
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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John B. Larson  
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Gerald E. Connolly  
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Suzanne Bonamici  
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Ted W. Lieu  
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Lucy McBath  
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Daniel T. Kildee  
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Lizzie Fletcher  
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Jason Crow  
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Jahana Hayes  
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Val Butler Demings  
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Brian Higgins  
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Haley M. Stevens  
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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



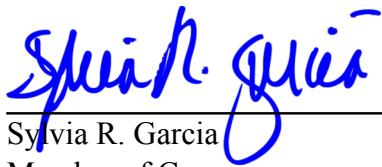
Thomas R. Suozzi  
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Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



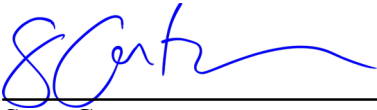
Bradley Scott Schneider  
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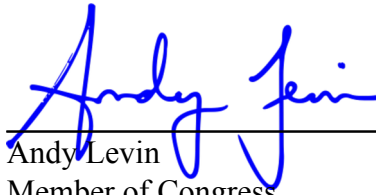
Sylvia R. Garcia  
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Lori Trahan  
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Andy Levin  
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J. Luis Correa  
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Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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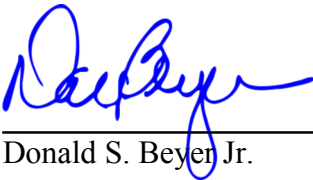
Andy Kim  
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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
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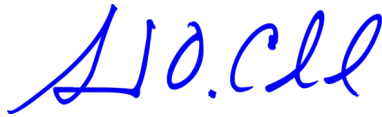
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



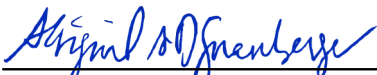
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



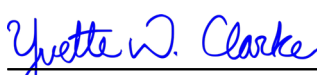
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer  
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
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